

STATE SENATOR . MICHAEL PRUSI . 38TH DISTRICT

# Prusi Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 26, 2003**

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## **FOUR U.P. COUNTIES TO RECEIVE \$2.5 MILLION FOR HIGH-SPEED INTERNET DEVELOPMENT**

**LANSING** – State Senator Mike Prusi (D-Ishpeming) announces that four U.P. counties will receive more than \$2.5 million for fiber optic and high-speed Internet infrastructure development through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) Community Development Block Grant Program. The funding was approved by the MEDC's Broadband Development Authority.

"Thanks to these grants, more people will now have better access to high-speed Internet terminals," Prusi said. "Instead of waiting minutes or hours to access and download information off the net, now they'll be able to have the data in seconds."

- Houghton County requested the grant money on behalf of the city of Houghton and the townships of Eagle Harbor, Allouez, Grant, Houghton, Sherman, Calumet, Schoolcraft, Osceola, Torch Lake, Stanton, and Chassell will share \$1.2 million to acquire 63 miles of fiber optic cable and high-speed Internet infrastructure for use by public libraries.
- Iron County requested the grant money on behalf of the cities of Iron River, Caspian, and Gaastra and the townships of Stambaugh, Iron River, and Bates will share \$627,000 to acquire 35 miles fiber optic cable and high-speed Internet infrastructure for use by public libraries.
- Marquette County requested the \$627,000 in grant money on behalf of Forsyth Township for 39 miles of fiber optic cable and high-speed Internet infrastructure for use by public libraries.

All the projects are under review by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development and the Michigan Strategic Fund.

Mike Prusi serves as Democratic Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee. He represents the 38<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes 13 of the 15 Upper Peninsula counties.

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